GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:46
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2002
TERRORISTS NEW BASES
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the terrorist organisations responsible for carrying out terrorist activities in the country have established new bases in other countries besides Pakistan;

(b) if so, the names of such terrorist organisations and the countries where their bases are in existence;

(c) since when these bases are functioning; and

(d) the names of the countries with whom the Government have taken up the matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a), (b), (c) and (d): Sir, a Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) to (d) OF ANSWER TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 46 T(ANSWERED ON 17.07.2002

According to the information available with the Government, the position is as follows:

MYANMAR:

National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang) NSCN(K), National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN), Peoples Liberatic Army (PLA), United National Liberation Front (UNLF), United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) are believed to have bases alon India-Myanmar border. These have been functioning for some years but since they keep shifting their location it is not possible to indicate whether new ones have been established. Government of India has taken up the matter with the Government of Myanmar at various levels and are receiving good cooperation in tackling this problem.

BANGLADESH:

Harkat-ul-Jehad-Al-Islami (HUJAI), Al Qaida, NSCN, ULFA, Peoples Liberation Army (PLA), All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF) a National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) reportedly have bases in Bangladesh.These bases have been functioning for some years but since they keep shifting their location it is not possible to indicate whether new ones have been established. Our concern over the presence of these terrorist elements has been shared with Government of Bangladesh.

NEPAL

The Government is concerned about ISI misusing the Nepalese territory and the open India-Nepal border for activities inimical to Indias interest and is seized of the matter. The Government has noted the several instances of arrest of staffers of Pakistani Embassy in Kathmandu for being in possession of explosives and fake Indian currencies. Such officials have subsequently been asked to leave the country by the Government of Nepal.

Government of India has taken up issues relating to ISI activities in Nepalese territory and the misuse of the open India-Nepal border with the Government of Nepal. The Governments of India and Nepal have agreed that they would not allow their territory to be used for activities inimical to the interests of either country.

BHUTAN

The presence of ULFA, National Democratic Federation of Bodoland (NDFB) and KLO militants on Bhutanese territory has been subject of discussion with the Government of Bhutan. Both sides share concern on the issues. The Government of Bhutan has reiterated that they would not allow their territory to be misused against the interests of India. Governments of India and Bhutan remain in constant touch and are extending co-operation to each other in this regard.

Six major terrorist organisations which have been operating in India viz. Lashkar-e-Toiba, Harkat-ul-Mujahideen, Jaish-e-Mohamed, Babbar Khalsa, International Sikh Youth Federation (ISYF) and LTTE, have been proscribed in the UK under the Terrorist Act 2000.

THE NETHERLANDS

There are reports which indicate that various terrorists/secessionist organisations like NSCN (I-Muivah), Babbar Khalsa International, Hisbullah and the LTTE have presence in the Netherlands for quite some time, each with a well-established front organisation.After the terrorist attacks in the US on September 11, 2001, it is reported that Al Qaida has links with various Islamic organisations in the country. We have been taking up the matter with the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands on a regular basis, by expressing Indias concerns over the presence of the above terrorist/ secessionist organisations in the Netherlands; urging them to exercise greater caution in granting asylum/refugee status to the persons having links with such organisations; and emphasising the fact that these organisations should not use the soil of the Netherlands to work against India.